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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Once Amended) A package comprising:

a collapsible pouch defined by at least two, opposing, flexible web portions that are sealed together adjacent an interior region which is unsealed and that are separated at a peripheral region to define an opening to the interior region;

a fitment that is molded from thermoplastic material as a unitary structure defining a dispensing passage and having a hollow base that has two lateral ends and that defines two generally oppositely facing walls which converge and terminate at each of said two lateral ends, each said wall defining an exterior surface portion sealingly secured to one of said web portions along said opening, said fitment hollow base defining at least a portion of said dispensing passage through said fitment, said fitment including a spout that (A) extends from said hollow base, and (B) defines at least a portion of said dispensing passage;

a flexible valve that (A) has a self-sealing slit which opens to permit flow therethrough in response to increased pressure on the side of said valve facing the interior of said pouch, and (B) is disposed within said fitment across said fitment dispensing passage so that said slit is located inside said fitment both when said slit is open and when said slit is closed [is disposed within said hollow fitment across said fitment dispensing passage, and (B) has a self-sealing slit which opens to permit flow therethrough in response to increased pressure on the side of said valve facing the interior of said pouch]; and

a removable and disposable cover formed as extensions of at least two of said pouch

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web portions which enclose said fitment spout and which have peripheral margins sealed together to define a hermetically sealed volume around said fitment spout.

5. (One Amended) A package comprising:

a collapsible pouch defined by at least two, opposing, flexible web portions that are sealed together adjacent an interior region which is unsealed and that are separated at a peripheral region to define an opening to the interior region;

a fitment that is molded from thermoplastic material as a unitary structure and that (1) defines a dispensing passage, (2) is sealingly secured to said web portions along said opening, and (3) extends from said interior region through said opening;

a flexible valve that (A) has a self-sealing slit which opens to permit flow therethrough in response to increased pressure on the side of said valve facing the interior of said pouch, and (B) is disposed within said fitment across said fitment dispensing passage so that said slit is located inside said fitment both when said slit is open and when said slit is closed [is disposed within said fitment cross said fitment dispensing passage; and (B) has a self-sealing slit which opens to permit flow therethrough in response to increased pressure on the side of said valve facing the interior fo said pouch]; and

a removable cover on said pouch enclosing said fitment to define a hermetically sealed volume around said fitment over said opening.

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8. (Once Amended) The [dispensing structure] package in accordance with claim 5
in which

 said fitment includes a hollow base that defines at least a portion of said dispensing
 passage through said fitment;

 said fitment hollow has two lateral ends and defines two generally oppositely facing
 sidewalls which converge and terminate at each end of said two lateral ends,

 each said sidewall defines an exterior surface portion sealingly secured to one of said
 web portions along said opening;

 said fitment includes a spout that (1) extends from said hollow base, and (2) defines a
 portion of said dispensing passage;

 said fitment spout has an outer annular end; and

 said dispensing package includes a membrane that is releasably secured across said
 outer annular end to sealingly occlude the portion of said dispensing passage defined by said
 spout.

9. (Once Amended) A package comprising:

a collapsible pouch defined by at least two, opposing, flexible web portions that are
 sealed together adjacent an interior region which is unsealed and that are separated at a
 peripheral region to define an opening to the interior region;

a fitment that is molded from thermoplastic material as a unitary structure defining a

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dispensing passage and having a hollow base that has two lateral ends and that defines two generally oppositely facing walls which converge and terminate at each of said two lateral ends, each said wall defining an exterior surface portion sealingly secured to one of said web portions along said opening, said fitment hollow base defining at least a portion of said dispensing passage through said fitment, said fitment including a spout as part of the unitary structure that (A) extends from said hollow base, and (B) defines at least a portion of said dispensing passage; and

a flexible valve that (A) has a self-sealing slit which opens to permit flow therethrough in response to increased pressure on the side of said valve facing the interior of said pouch, and (B) is disposed within said fitment across said fitment dispensing passage so that said fitment projects as a unitary structure in the direction outwardly away from said pouch beyond said valve both when said slit is open and when said slit is closed.

12. (Once Amended) A package comprising:

a collapsible pouch defined by at least two, opposing, flexible web portions that are sealed together adjacent an interior region which is unsealed and that are separated at a peripheral region to define an opening to the interior region;

a fitment that includes (A) a base sealingly secured to said web portions along said opening, (B) a spout extending from said base as unitary part of said fitment and terminating with an end defining a dispensing orifice, and (C) a dispensing passage that

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extends from said interior region through said base and spout to said dispensing orifice; and
a flexible valve that (A) has a self-sealing slit which opens to permit flow
therethrough in response to increased pressure on the side of said valve facing the interior of
said pouch, and (B) is disposed within said fitment across said fitment dispensing passage
inwardly of said dispensing orifice in the direction toward the interior of said pouch so that
said slit is located inwardly of said dispensing orifice in the direction toward the interior of
said pouch both when said slit is open and when said slit is closed.

16. (Once Amended) A package comprising:

a collapsible pouch defined by at least two, opposing, flexible web portions
that are sealed together adjacent an interior region which is unsealed and that are separated at
a peripheral region to define an opening to the interior region;
a fitment that includes (A) a base sealingly secured to said web portions along
said opening, (B) a spout extending from said base as a unitary part of said base and
terminating with an outer end defining a dispensing orifice, (C) a dispensing passage that
extends from said interior region through said base and spout to said dispensing orifice, and
(D) an inner surface that is located around said dispensing passage and that is defined by an
annular inner shoulder which is on, and a unitary part of, the interior of said spout and which
faces generally inwardly in the direction toward the interior of said pouch; and
a flexible valve that (A) has a central wall with a self-sealing slit which opens

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to permit flow therethrough in response to increased pressure on the side of said valve facing the interior of said pouch. (B) has a peripheral flange laterally beyond, and connected to, said central wall, and (C) is disposed wholly within said fitment across said fitment dispensing passage with said valve flange sealingly engaged with said fitment inner surface to locate said valve central wall inwardly of said spout inner surface in the direction toward the interior of said pouch when said valve slit is closed.